

ABSTRACT

A communications device, which has a cryptographic module for use in mobile communications, can be used as a cryptographic services provider. For example, the device may be a device which can operate under the Wireless Application Protocol, that is, a WAP-enabled device, such as a mobile phone. This has the advantage that WAP-enabled devices include components which are used in public key/private key cryptographic systems as a part of their standard communication functions. These components therefore advantageously allow the device to be used as a cryptographic services provider. Advantageously, the device can use Wireless Transport Layer Security (WTLS) for mobile communications, and employs its cryptographic module when in use as a cryptographic services provider.